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Please pass legislation to stop spyware and adware at the federal level. These programs are often malicious and transmit personal data as well as destroying hard drive contents or requiring reinstallation of operating systems when they interfere with necessary system files. At a minimum, removal of these "programs" which often behave more like viruses is time consuming. We have 4 computers in our home and if one is infected it is nearly a 6 hour job to clean it up, restore it to pre-spyware condition and verify that it is now safe to use. We also have the task of doing this for friends and family members who are less computer literate and download freeware from the internet that has these programs imbedded.

We rely on our computers to run our lives and business. If they are damaged by spyware it is more than just time to clean them up but a potentially devastating loss of data and/or revenue and an unacceptable burden to those who are left to clean up the damage.

Spyware and Adware need to be treated just as if they are viruses.

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